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WATCHMAKERS

House Bill 4715 as introduced
First Analysis (5-20-93)

Sponsor: Rep. Joseph Young, Jr.
Committee: State Affairs

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

Under the Occupational Code (Public Act 299 of 1980), horologists (people who make or sell timepieces) are required to make identifying marks on the inside of the cases of watches held for repair and to register these identifying marks with the Department of Licensing and Regulation. The department is responsible for assigning each registered horologist an identification casemark, keeping a list of assigned casemarks, and filing the list with the Department of State Police. (Note: The functions of the Department of Licensing and Regulation were transferred to the Department of Commerce as of September 1, 1991.) The Department of State Police says that it is unnecessary for the state police to keep their own horology files.

their own horology files for some 12 years), the bill would eliminate a needless duplication of filing and storage.

POSITIONS:

A representative of the Department of State Police testified in support of the bill. (5-19-93)

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would amend the Occupational Code to delete the reference to filing the registration casemarks with the Department of State Police.

MCL 339.1408

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Fiscal information is not available at present. (5-19-93)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The existing requirements of the Occupational Code require horologists to file identifying marks (assigned by the Department of Commerce and put on the inside of the cases of watches held for repair) with the Department of Commerce and require the Department of Commerce to file the data with the Department of State Police. Since the state police can access the Department of Commerce's files any time they need to do so (and since, reportedly, the state police have not looked at

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